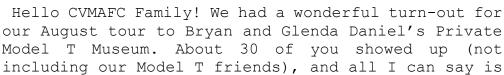
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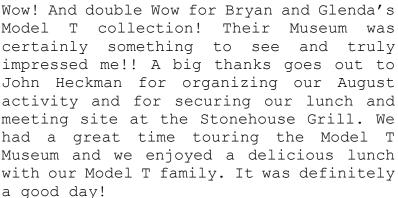
ISSUE 9

September-2025

# COLONIAL "A" NEWS

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE





Next up, --I'm looking forward to seeing as many of you as are able to participate in our fundraising event on September 13<sup>th</sup> (which is Model A Ford Day), where we will utilize our As to shuttle the CEO of Home Depot and other executives from the Williamsburg Inn to Christiana Campbell's Tavern (a 2-mile drive) in Colonial Williamsburg. This will be a great opportunity to show off the history and beauty of our A's we provide a service, while raising funds for our Club.

Now, as we gear up for fall and more



comfortable touring weather, let's remember that in just a few more months many of us will be parking our A's for the year. With that in mind let's take full advantage of the lowering temps and squeeze every last drop out of the touring season. So, get out in those A's as we gather together for more Model A Family, Fellowship & Fun!

-- Ahooga Blessings, Marlon

"Fall is proof that endings can be beautiful." Anonymous

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colonialnews@gmail.com



\* 1930 Ford Model AA 32-passenger School Bus \*

### **COLONIAL VIRGINIA MODEL "A" FORD CLUB**

http://www.cvmafc.com

The purpose of our club is to restore, promote and preserve Model "A" Fords and to serve as a medium of exchange of ideas, information and parts and to further attract prestige and respect within the community with family oriented activities and civic and community involvement.





# Birthdays and Anniversary's

- 1 Terry Gunnels
- 2 Fred & Bonnie Nelson
- 3 John Wyatt
- 7 William Coates
- 11 Linda Westenberger
- 12 Coralie Raunia
- 14 Mark Kiser
- 16 Bonnie Nelson
- 20 Margaret Bitler
- 20 Ivan Morefield
- 22 Dave & Linda Westenberger
- 22 Janet Andersen
- 25 Larry & Cathy Munk
- 27 Sharon Dowdy

#### Colonial "A" News

## **Model A Stuff For Sale**



1928 Ford Model AA Truck for sale by Carl Carlson. Please see listing in eBay Motors for details. All restoration receipts in hand. Truck regularly driven in Club events. Additional information and more pictures can be obtained from seller: Carl Carlson 339-222-7254 <a href="mailto:carlsoncg26@gmail.com">carlsoncg26@gmail.com</a>. \$18,750 OBO.

# Advertise Your Model A Stuff For Sale!!

Here





Model A Ford – 1930 Genuine License Plates. Professionally Repainted.

Cobra long grain Model A Top Material for a Sedan (for sale) new in the box. Contact Marlon Spratley at healthy equation@hotmail.com





#### Colonial "A" News

# Colonial Virginia Model A Ford Club

# CVMAFC August 16, 2025, MEETING MINUTES

The August meeting held at the Stonehouse Grill Restaurant in Toano was called to order at 12:04pm by President, Marlon Spratley. Marlon began by thanking John Heckman for arranging the tour of the Daniel's private Model T Museum at their home. Rodney Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Ed Case gave the blessing. Martha Wilkins gave the Sunshine Report and told the Club that George Amory was doing well with his chemotherapy and loved the get-well card sent to him by the Club. The June Secretary's minutes reported in the July Newsletter were approved. The Treasurer's Report was filed for audit. There were no Newsletter or Technical Reports.

The October Tour will be led by Larry and Cathy Munk with details to be announced. Tours for September and November were announced as being open for volunteers.

September 13, 2025, is Model A Day and on that day the Club will shuttle the CEO of Home Depot and other Executives from the Williamsburg Inn to Christiana Campbell's Restaurant (one way only). The Club will be given a \$1,800 honorarium for this service. As many of our cars as possible are needed to participate.

The Newport News Fall Festival is on Oct. 4-5 at Newport News Park. 10 cars will be needed to be displayed at the Park on both days for which we will receive an honorarium.

The Williamsburg Christmas Parade will be held on December 7. Those who have signed up to participate for the very limited slots available will meet at Carl Carlson's house at 4:30pm. Following the Parade, participants will meet at Panera Bread for dinner.

The Christmas Banquet will be held on December 6<sup>th</sup> at the Marlbank Cove Clubhouse. The Banquet will be catered and will cost approximately \$35 pp. The Club will pay for a sheet cake for dessert. Marlon presented Lynn Spratley with the MARC Award of Merit for the Club's Colonial A News

Newsletter.

There was no old or new business.

Rodney Moore won the 50/50 and donated his winnings of \$51 to the Club for the Christmas Banquet!!

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35pm.

Meredith Jackson, Secretary



CVMAFC	Treasurer's	Report	for	August
2025				

CHECKING ACCT, 30 June thru 30 July

PREVIOUS BALANCE

as of 6/30/2025 \$754.68

**EXPENSES:** 

No checks written -0.00 Bank service.25 charge -5.00

INCOME:

Total Deposits +0.00

STATED BALANCE:

as of 7/31/2025 \$749.68

CHECK BOOK BALANCE:

as of 7/31/2025 \$749.68

Prepared by: Rick Morgan, Treasurer

# CLUBNEWS



### September Sunshine Report 🥹

It was so good to see both Jim Bostic and Rick Morgan at the August 16th tour. Glad to have them "back in the saddle", so to speak. I had a call from Barbara Amory to say how much George enjoys the cards from the Club. We will keep it up.

This month we sent cards to George and Barbara Amory and Jill Morefield.

Thanks to all who keep me informed about our members who may need some sunshine. I really appreciate it and all of you.

Text or call 757-880-7952, or e-mail me at mbwilkins44@gmail.com Martha Wilkins

## First Tuesday Breakfast

One nice thing about our Club's First Tuesday Breakfast is that you get a firsthand chance to meet our new members. They always have an interesting story about how they became interested in Model A's and owning their first "A". Another reason, of course, is to discuss any mechanical issues a member may have with their car and how to resolve them. I know this opportunity has been a big help for me on several occasions. There is no problem to small or to difficult that the group can't figure out.

At our August breakfast we had a good showing with fourteen members and five Model A's present plus a beautiful woodie station wagon.

Those present included: John Atkinson, Tim Branem, Carl Carlson, Dave Carroll. Ed Case, David Dowdy, Des Donnelly, Rick Morgan, Larry Munk, David Routten. Marlon Spratley, Mickey West, David Westenberger, and Jerry Wilkins.

Our next Frist Tuesday Breakfast will be September 2 at the <u>Capitol Pancake House in Williamsburg at 802 Capitol Landing Rd.</u> (New Location!!) starting at 9:00am.

Come and join the group. You will be glad you did. **Jerry W**.



## August 16th CVMAFC Tour

Club member, John Heckman, led our August tour to the incredible private Model T Museum at the home of Bryan & Glenda Daniel in Toano. We were amazed at each neat antique item we saw around every corner of the property, including the interior of the Daniel's home. Their Model T collection was expansive as was their collection of many other interesting antique items. In addition to the antiques, we even saw a farm animal or two (or more!) on the property. Some of our Model T friends joined us for the tour and continued in the fun by travelling with us to our lunch destination and meeting at the Stonehouse Grill, which was just a few short miles from the Daniel's home. The lunch and meeting were great and, as always, a good time was had by all!





























### September 13th CVMAFC "Service Project" & Fundraiser

On September 13<sup>th</sup> between 5:00pm – 7pm CVMAFC members will shuttle Home Depot's CEO, Ted Decker, and about 60 other Executives, from the Williamsburg Inn at 136 Francis Street E to a reception they will be attending at Christiana Campbell's Tavern at 101 S. Waller Street. Both locations are in the heart of Colonial Williamsburg. The transport will be one way only. CVMAFC will receive a generous honorarium for this service, and it will be a wonderful opportunity to display the beauty and history of the Model A. As many of our cars as possible are needed!

MEET: 4:15pm at the Williamsburg Shorty's

**ARRIVE:** At Williamsburg Inn no later than 4:45pm

**TRANSPORT**: Executives from 5pm until all have arrived at Christian

Campbell's Tavern



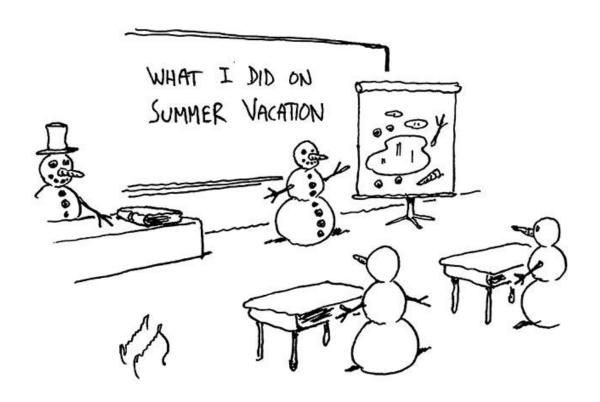
TED DECKER
Chair, President & Chief Executive Officer

# September 20th CVMAFC Tour & Meeting

On September 20<sup>th</sup> we will meet at **Shorty's Williamsburg** (627 Merrimac Trail) at 9:30am and travel to the **Williamsburg Cars and Coffee** event located at the High Street Shops (1430 High Street), arriving there at 10am. Cars and Coffee, sponsored by the Tipsy Beans Café, is a monthly gathering of car enthusiasts who come together on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month to meet and display their vehicles. CVMAFC members, please be advised that Cars and Coffee has a strict policy of "No Reving and No Burnouts" ②! At 11:30am we will drive to Old City Barbeque (700 York Street in Williamsburg) for a 12:00p.m. meet time, where we will eat lunch and have our meeting. See you there!









This two-day, family-friendly festival will be held at Newport News Park (13560 Jefferson Ave.) on October 4 and 5 and includes traditional marketplace crafters and exhibitors, Halloween-themed vendors, live stage entertainment, and more! Once again this year, <u>CVMAFC will have a booth at the festival and will display at least 10 of our cars on both days</u>. Additionally, the CVMAFC Executive Board will meet on Saturday October 4 at 12pm at our booth at the Park. Please plan to have your car on display!



# UP CLOSE & PERSONAL: MODEL A MEMORIES

#### Des Donnelly

Des's first experience with the Model A was in 1965 when he was stationed on a submarine in Hawaii while serving in the U.S. Navy. The Chief that Des worked for owned a Model A, and he

taught Des how to drive it, and Des helped him tune up the Model A. Des joined the Navy in 1963 and initially served as a mechanic and later advanced to Master Chief Petty Officer. While serving in the Navy, Des maintained and repaired high pressure air systems, hydraulic systems, air conditioners and refrigerators, as well as 1600 horse powered diesel engines.

Fast forwarding 26 years later, after Des had retired from the Navy and was working at the York-Poquoson's Sherriff's Office, he became friends with CVMAFC member Mickey West's sons and became interested in the Model A through Mickey. In fact, Des drove Mickey's Model As in parades

and came to really like the Model A. One day while driving down Warwick Bloulevard, he saw a 1932 Tudor, but it didn't run. Mickey promised him that it would, so Des purchased the car. Des later purchased the Model A chassis that he owns from a guy who was going to turn a 1930 Coupe into a hot rod but, instead, gave it to Des.

About 3 years ago, Des was in a car accident with his Tudor, and the car was totaled. With his mechanical knowledge and skill, Des built the car back and it's now looking as beautiful as ever.

Des is retired from the Sherriff's Department, where he served as a Deputy Sherriff. Initially Des worked as a patrol officer, then an investigator, and then served on the Swat Team for 17 years (the last of those 5 years he served as the Swat Team Commander). As a retired Deputy Sherrif, Des teaches firearms safety and tactical firearms instruction for the Sherriff's Department. He's also a firearms shooting instructor for the State of Virginia.

Des is a true asset to CVMAFC, as he is one of our Club mechanics and is a technical instructor who enjoys teaching others about the inner workings of the Model A using his chassis. We are thankful for Des!!



## How to Win the 2025 MAFCA Tour's Hard Luck Award!

First, sign up for the 2025 MAFCA's Tour of Virginia, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania Civil War Battle



Fields and museums, the Skyline Drive, and two Amish covered bridges. The Tour was 1,100 miles long (door to door) and the first four days were rainy and/or foggy, but thankfully cooler, except for the Skyline Drive which was so foggy that stopping at the overlooks made no sense unless you liked looking at fog. The fog was so thick at times that I could not see the LED taillights of the A-400 in front of me. Unfortunately, the rain stopped, and the oppressive heat and

humidity returned with a vengeance. It was in this weather that the Hard Luck story begins.

It was Thursday, the fifth day of the tour, about noon, and our travel group of four Model A's were on Rt 15, the part where it is a narrow, two-

lane road and in bumper-to-bumper traffic about six miles from our planned lunch stop. It was in these miserable conditions that a certain Deluxe Phaeton quit running, the motor just stopped without symptom or



warning... I pulled off the road as much as 15 mph momentum would take me into the muddy ditch as there was no room on the side of the road there. As I was the third Model A in our little wagon train, Brian pulled his airconditioned Sedan in front of me and together we managed to push my Phaeton until the back bumper was about 4" beyond the road's white stripe. Soon after, Ed Case and his son, Dan Case, had turned their

Model A's around and parked across the road. Brian and I had opened the passenger side hood and after inspecting the engine nothing seemed amiss. By then Ed and Dan had managed to cross the road without being hit by the 18-wheelers and cars creeping along, and we opened the driver's side hood.

Imagine our surprise to see the alternator securely connected to the engine, with fanbelt connection intact, except that the back half of the alternator had completely disconnected from the front of the alternator and was hanging by just the electric wires connected to its back end...

Now we needed a replacement generator/alternator, but no one had a spare alternator in their parts



inventory. Dan did a quick Google search on his phone and located a NAPA Auto Parts Store nearby. We decided that Ed and Dan would take Ed's A-400 to the NAPA store and use my credit card to purchase a new alternator and ask the store attendant to install the small pulley from my broken alternator on to the new alternator. This sounds easy but proved to be anything but. The NAPA guy struggled to install the pulley on

the new 12 V alternator (my Phaeton is a 12V car) and it was only with the advice of Ed and Dan that he finally managed to get it done after destroying one new alternator in the process. Meanwhile Brian and I decided nothing could be gained by waiting for Ed and Dan on the roadside, so Brian returned to his idling airconditioned car while Dan's wife, Susan, and I baked in our Model A's.

Over two hours later Ed and Dan returned, and the "new" alternator was installed. The Phaeton started right up but a voltmeter check revealed that the alternator had no output, it was just reading the battery voltage. It was about 3:30 in the afternoon, so we decided to drive to the restaurant a few miles away to eat, get out of the heat, and determine the next course of action. We made it to the restaurant without issue. The black thunderstorm clouds in the area caused me to leave our very late lunch to go outside and install my driver's side curtain. After a rejuvenating lunch we decided to drive to the NAPA Store and exchange the faulty generator for a new one.

As we left the restaurant parking lot, I decided to remove the driver's side curtain as the previous day's rain had never come inside the car. Big mistake, as soon as we got on the highway a huge thunderstorm hit with heavy rain and strong winds blowing the rain sideways...right into my lap. I was quickly soaked to the skin, and it was hard to see the cars in front of me despite the valent effort of my vacuum operated wiper. It was one of those "frog strangling" rains that did not let up. It was still pouring down rain when we reached the NAPA Store. What to do...fortunately this store had a long wide covered sidewalk along one side with a curb cutout at the far end. Dan motioned for me to pull my Phaeton in there, so I did with my front bumper ending up about 10" from the store wall. The front two-thirds of the Model A was now out of the rain so we could open the hood and get in and out of the front seat without getting soaked. Now the story gets even stranger.

Ed and Dan took the first generator into the store and the store guy, now adept at changing out pulleys, gave us a new one. Into the car it went, out came the voltmeter... no alternator output. We revved the car, lights on, lights off, different voltmeter, everything we could think of, surely two alternators could not be bad, right? Wrong! We repeated the above with the last three alternators the NAPA Store had in stock. With my original broken alternator that was five failed alternators!

With no alternators left (see what I did there) we drove the hour and a half to that night's hotel, stopping only for gas and for me to disconnect the latest bad alternator as it was acting as a 10-amp discharge load. Fortunately, I had just installed a new 12V Red Top Optima AGM battery with 90 minutes of reserve capacity at 25-amps and made it all the way to the hotel. I never knew that you could drive your Model A with no generator/alternator. The battery draw once running is relatively small; starting the car is the biggest drain on the battery. So, I had ruined 6 people's Thursday afternoon tour. It was 6:30pm when I reached my hotel, now what...?

Friday morning, I did several things. I called Synder's to ask if Don had any ideas about what was going on with my alternators. He suggested turning the lights on (ammeter showed a 10-amp discharge) start the car and see if the alternator would bring it back to zero (it didn't). Secondly, I ordered an expensive (more than 3 x the NAPA ones) 12V Nu-Rex alternator from Snyders with overnight delivery (also expensive). Then, I started my Phaeton and drove it to a nearby Auto Zone who tested my NAPA alternator with a portable alternator tester. The result...bad alternator. On the way back to the hotel I stopped at Waffle House, Ok I like it, you don't have to. While there Snyders called and said they could ship the Nu-Rex alternator next day to arrive by 10:30am "sometime" Saturday. I said yes to this even more expensive option as I hoped to rejoin the tour sooner rather than later.

Saturday morning, after telling the front desk 10 times that I was expecting an overnight delivery, the alternator arrived without me seeing it arrive. I had to change the mounting bracket (provided) to allow the Nu-Rex to fit and used the provided washer shims to properly align the alternator with the fan belt.

Then the moment of truth; I started the car...... Success! After a much-needed shower (late checkout), I was off to re-join the tour. Sunday night was the MAFCA



2025 Tour closing banquet. After several other awards, including oldest Model A driver, the presenters asked the audience for their "Hard Luck" stories. A few came to the podium and made their case, including a fan blade through the hood, finally I stood



up bragging that "I can beat that!" I told my story effectively, but with much less detail than above, and after two "cheer for the best story" polls I "won." And this is how you win the 2025 MAFCA Tour Hard Luck Award!

By Carl Carlson

## Hoping For Fall Colors Tour

The details for our **October 18<sup>th</sup> CVMAFC Tour**, led by Larry and Cathy Munk, are as follows:

At 9:30am we will meet up in the Brewsters/Food Lion parking lot at 5289 John Tyler

Highway, Williamsburg (this Food Lion generally has clean bathrooms). We will depart at 10:00am preceded by a brief meeting describing the tour route.

The Tour will be a Fall drive through Charles City County on and off the beaten path roads. We will hopefully enjoy the leaves changing and beautiful countryside. We will stop at the historic Charles City County Courthouse where there is a self-service Visitor Center with restrooms next door.

We will then go across the street to Cul's Courthouse Grille at 10801 Courthouse Rd, Charles City, and enjoy lunch. After lunch we will gather at the Love Shack for our meeting, which is next to the restaurant. Upon leaving the meeting we'll cross over Rt 5 to Rt 155 and proceed on Rt 155 to Providence Forge where we will get on Rt 60 for a leisurely drive home.

There are two gas stations at the turn onto Rt 60 for anyone needing gas.



# **Retirement Community Runs**

#### **Future Run Dates:**

September 12 - 10am-12pm The Arbors Independent Living/ Port Warwick

1100 William Styron Square Sq., Newport News

September 23 - 1:30pm-3:30pm Harpers Station Senior Living

4501 Victory Blvd., Yorktown (next to Coastal Church)

September 30 - 2pm-4pm Verena at the Reserve

Williamsburg, VA 23185





Tips-N-Tricks Protect Running Board Trim by Paul Grometer

Protect your Model A trim while it is sitting in your garage. Fit a 1 in. Dia. piece of pipe insulation over the running board trim. Either cut the pipe insulation to length or just run the extra length partly up the front fender. 1 in. x 6 ft. Polyethylene Pipe Insulation no. 1000031649 costs about \$2 at your local hardware store (Use plain pipe insulation, **DON' T use** the "Self-Sealing Pipe Insulation " with the adhesive)



#### **MAFFI MINUTE**

We're 5 weeks away from Model A Days at Hickory Corners, MI. Are your reservations made? We hope so. This will be the grandest event yet!

The Model A Ford Museum has always been a treat for our hobbyists. Whether you've been there before or are planning to go this year, this visit will be extra special because of the completed expansion! The museum used to be able to showcase 30 vehicles; now all the vehicles that the Model A Ford Foundation Inc. owns are in one building! Production years, 1928 through 1931, as well as a variety of body styles from Tudors to Phaetons -- Pickups to Firetrucks and a City Bus --- and more-- are on display. There is a larger variety of interactive exhibits and vignettes to put visitors right back in the era of the vehicles.

If you would like a sneak peek at the museum, go the www.maffi.org and click on the camera links for a live view: There's Expansion Bay 1, Expansion Bay 2, and Expansion Entrance along with a live view of the rest of the museum.

And, for those of you planners, get this on your agenda. Save the dates September 12-

16, 2028 for the 100-year anniversary of the Model A: 1928-2028! There will be driving tours offered by each of the national organizations, MARC and MAFCA and activities galore for all 5 days.

I know there's no such thing as too much fun, but we're pushing the envelope!! Cindy Ellenbecker MAFFI Trustee/Secretary



#### **Info and Links**

<u>Click to register for our special events: Special Events Registration</u>
<u>This includes the Friday Night Dinner and the special Thursday Night Expansion Ribbon Cutting.</u>

Host Hotel is SOLD OUT. Click for: Additional Hotels

Click to see/download our vendor swap form: Vendor Swap Form

Click to view weekend schedule: Schedule

## The Model A Restorers Club, Inc.

# THE running BOARD REPORT

From Tom Hovetter, President and Jim Zimmer, Director of Regions

September 2025

eet us next May in the beautiful Finger Lakes Region of New York State when we present the MARC 2026 Membership Meet/National Tour as a joint event! The Finger Lakes area is renowned for its scenery, local wineries, and quaint villages. For an extra thrill, drive your Model A on the world-class Watkins Glen International Speedway! Details are still being finalized so keep checking the *Model A News* and *The Running Board Report* for information as it develops!

LERT! Scammers are back again. Recently an email, purportedly from Tom Hovetter, MARC President, was sent to Regional officers requesting gift cards be sent for veterans. This is a scam. MARC does not solicit funds except for payment of membership/Region dues.

ecently the Driver Class committee met to make changes to the judging standards based on feedback we have received. An example of a few of the changes made are that we will include vehicles with fiberglass fenders and later Ford axles to participate going forward and have enhanced the awards! We want to encourage participation of almost any Model A with non stock parts and modifications. Look for the updated standards on the MARC website shortly.

ertainly you've seen that we have the digital version of the *Model A News* posted on our website for MARC members to view. If you are a new member or just renewed, at the bottom of your receipt is a button to view your account and it will take you to it. This method is in addition to access through the MARC website. If you need a copy of your receipt, just contact the office at 734-427-9050 and we can sent it to you..



# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Sept. 2 First Tuesday Breakfast at Capitol Pancake House at 9,00am (New Location!)
- Sept. 20 Meet at Shorty's 9:30am) drive to Cars & Coffee (1430 High St.) 12pm Lunch & Meeting at Old City Barbeque (700 York St., Williamsburg)
- Sept. 12 Retirement Community Run at 10am, The Arbors, Newport News
- Sept. 13 Home Depot CEO & Executives Transport Fundraiser
- Sept. 23 Retirement Community Run at 1:30pm, Harper's Sation, Yorktown
- Sept. 30 Retirement Community Run at 2pm, Verena, Williamsburg

# Please pay \$25 to *renew* your dues for 2025

Existing members pay \$25 dues (those who receive US mailed copies of the Newsletter pay \$35). For new members, dues are \$35 (which covers one name badge. An additional name badge for a spouse is another \$10). Make check payable to: Colonial VA Model A Ford Club. Mail to Club Treasurer, Rick Morgan, at: 213 Artillery Rd., Yorktown, VA 23692

#### CVMAFC Website, Clothing & Patches

Visit our website at <a href="https://cvmafc.com">https://cvmafc.com</a> to find more information about our Club, including upcoming events, past events, and a portal through which potential members can contact us. You can also purchase CVMAFC Anniversary Patches (\$10), CVMAFC Enamel Radiator Medallions (\$10), and CVMAFC decals (\$8) from Club member, Carl Carlson.













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CREATED AND PUBLISHED IN WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA USA. THE END



# September 2025

Ford Club P.O. Box 5002

Lynn A. Spratley Newsletter Editor

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